(19) World Intellectual Property **Organization**

International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 30 June 2005 (30.06.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/059138 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: C12N 15/36, A61P 31/22, C12Q 1/68

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/SG2004/000368

(22) International Filing Date:

12 November 2004 (12.11.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 60/529,632

16 December 2003 (16.12.2003)

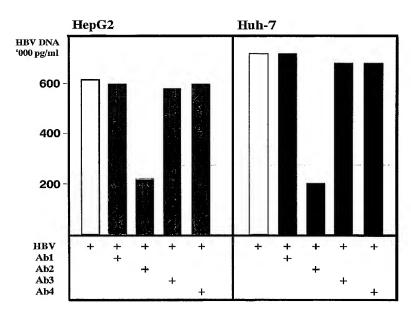
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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, $KG,\,KP,\,KR,\,KZ,\,LC,\,LK,\,LR,\,LS,\,LT,\,LU,\,LV,\,MA,\,MD,$ MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHODS AND COMPOUNDS FOR ALTERING THE LOAD OF HEPATITIS VIRUS



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method for altering the load of a Hepatitis virus present in an infected host organism. The method involves modulation of the complex formation of a heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein K (hnRNP K) and the regulatory region of a Hepatitis virus, enhancer II region. Additionally there are methods of identifying compounds that modulate complex formation, and the use of such compounds in diagnosis of a Hepatitis infrection. The present invention also relates to a mutation in enhancer II region at position 1752 of the virus sequence which reduces the binding affinity of hnRNP K with the enhancer II region.





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SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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